

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the second paragraph on page 2 with the following amended paragraph:

U.S. Patent Nos. 5,505,344, 5,476,879, and 5,341,970, all to the present Applicant, disclose an acoustic ceiling patch that is sprayable from a hand-held aerosol dispense. However, certain materials, such as ~~Styrofoam~~ STYROFOAM, used as an aggregate in the acoustic ceiling patch to provide texture in the material, cannot be used in the presence of volatile organic compound (VOC) propellants because they will deteriorate or melt. Therefore, only non-VOC propellants or compressed air may be used with these aggregate materials. However, the use of non-VOC propellants or compressed air require a greater pressure to dispense the patch material containing these aggregates. The greater pressure may lead to some loss of control for the user when spraying the patch material. Along with the use of a greater pressure to dispense the patch material is the decrease in atomization of the patch material when being dispensed.

Please replace the first paragraph on page 4 with the following amended paragraph:

In an embodiment of the present invention, the acoustic ceiling textured material may include: a base or emulsion of water and/or solvent; an adhesive binder made of a natural or synthetic polymer; a pressurized carrier for dispensing of the material, such as a solvent/propellant aerosol that mixes with the composition; a filler made of a mixture of calcium-carbonate (limestone), mica, or clay; an aggregate having rubber particulates or polyethylene-type particulates (that are not dissolvable in solvent or solvent propellants, such as dimethyl ether (DME), propane, or butane) resembling the ~~Styrofoam~~ STYROFOAM used in the conventional methods that help produce the "Popcorn effect". Furthermore, the rubber or polyethylene particulates, being of a soft and deformable material, allow for an easier flow through the valves and nozzles of the dispensing container because they are deformable and bend within the valves and nozzles upon dispensing.

Please replace the first paragraph on page 6 with the following amended paragraph:

...indication is presented or noticeable pertaining to a repair or patch. The material being applied is broadly indicated by numeral 15 which is contained within the dispenser container 16 and applied in the form of a spray 18 in either liquid or semi-liquid condition. Application is achieved by depression of a pump or spray nozzle 17 which permits discharge of the pressurized material carried within the container 16. Such an application of the material occurs directly on the desired area 14 by the user who hand-carries the container 16 and operates the nozzle 17 on site with one hand. Waste and loss of material is avoided since the discharge is under the control of the user through the application of the discharge nozzle 17. Therefore, there is no residue or excess material that is not used which requires disposal. Furthermore, the material 15 is lumpy and, after curing on surface 14, provides an irregular surface compatible and matching the surrounding material surface area. Furthermore, the material in the container is considered a finished product and does not require additives of any kind and the labeling on the container may provide identification numbers and laboratory information.

Please replace the first paragraph on page 9 with the following amended paragraph:

The use rubber particulates or polyethylene particulates as the aggregate allows the hardenable flowable material to be sprayed in the presence of volatile organic compound (VOC) propellants. Other materials, such as ~~Styrofoam~~ STYROFOAM, will deteriorate and melt in the presence of VOC propellants. Therefore, when using materials such as ~~Styrofoam~~ STYROFOAM, one must use compressed air or other non-VOC propellants, which requires an increased pressure to propel these materials. The increased pressure also reduces the desired level of atomization and the level of control for the user when spraying. The increased pressure also forces the sprayable material to be dispensed all at once in a matter of seconds, which offers the user little value. Because rubber particulates or polyethylene particulates are unaffected by VOC propellants, the use of rubber particulates or polyethylene particulates, and particularly open-cell particulates (which provide a better acoustic value), as the aggregate allows for a more controllable and atomized spray texture, making the repair of an acoustic ceiling patch with the use of aerosol dispenser an easier task.